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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Objects on Internet are Closer Than They Appear for Michigan Travelers

*MiWiFi Project Brings Wireless Internet Service to  
10 Michigan State-Owned Parks, Docks, Rest Areas and Welcome Centers*

**LANSING, September 1, 2004** —Bug spray, snacks, bottled water, swimsuit—and now, Wi-Fi-enabled laptop computers can be added to the list of items for Michigan travelers – and just in time for Labor Day Weekend! The State of Michigan and SBC Communications Inc. (NYSE: SBC) today announced that wireless Internet access, or MiWiFi, is now available at the Holland State Park and the Grand Haven State Park, the first two parks in the nation to provide this service in state campgrounds. MiWiFi will bring the SBC *FreedomLink* Wi-Fi service to ten state parks, docks, rest areas and welcome centers to benefit Michigan residents and travelers.

MiWiFi is powered by the SBC *FreedomLink* Wi-Fi service and is now available at Holland and Grand Haven, but will also be piloted at Ludington State Park, Mackinac Island State Dock, New Buffalo Welcome Center, Coldwater Welcome Center and Clarkston Rest Area by October. The service will be available at Charles Mears State Park, Sterling State Park and East Tawas State Dock when those locations reopen in April 2005.

The State of Michigan is bringing the service to enable travelers to use laptop computers and personal digital assistants to wirelessly connect to the Internet and corporate networks at speeds 50 to 100 times faster than a dial-up connection. Customers can gain access to a *FreedomLink* hot spot when they are within approximately a 150-foot range of its location.

"We are thrilled to make Michigan the first state to offer Wi-Fi Internet access at popular recreational areas like state campgrounds, providing more convenience and enjoyment for travelers and visitors to our great state," said Governor Jennifer Granholm. "Working together with SBC companies, the State of Michigan is again showing why we are ranked number one in the nation when it comes to digital government."

"We are delighted to provide FreedomLink Wi-Fi access at Michigan's top recreational facilities where travelers can enjoy the convenience of high-speed Internet access in remote areas," added Gail Torreano, president, SBC Michigan. "Travelers will benefit from using our affordable and reliable Wi-Fi service throughout Michigan and at more than 2,300 other locations nationwide."

*FreedomLink* service at the Michigan recreational areas will be available for only \$7.95 for a twenty-four session. Monthly SBC *FreedomLink* memberships are available for \$19.95 and provide unlimited access to all *FreedomLink* hot spots. Travelers and vacationers will have free access to Michigan.gov, the state's top rated Internet web site. Free access is also planned for Michigan.org sometime next year.

Teri Takai, Director of Michigan's Department of Information Technology, made the announcement on Wednesday in front of a crowd at the Holland State Park. "MiWiFi is a shining example of how strong partnership and collaboration can bring great benefits to our citizens," commented Takai. "This would not have been possible without our strong relationship with the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and through our great collaboration with SBC companies."

"We are consistently evaluating the feedback at our state parks in order to provide vacationers with the best possible experience," added Rebecca Humphries, Director of the Department of Natural Resources. "This new service appeals to a certain segment of our population, making their trip to our parks even more convenient. We want everyone to enjoy their experience and learn why Michigan's state parks are among the best and most beautiful in the country."

The *FreedomLink* service is part of an integrated effort to meet customer demand for a comparable broadband experience in the home, office or on the road. To meet this goal, SBC companies plan to make available more than 20,000 Wi-Fi hot spots to *FreedomLink* customers by the end of 2006 and work with Cingular Wireless to utilize Wi-Fi and Cingular's wireless network to deliver unprecedented coverage.

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